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## GLOSSARY

**1995 Base Case** A model simulation that provides an understanding of the how the 1995 water management system with 1995 land use and demands responds to historic (1965-1995) climatic conditions.

**1-in-10 Year Drought** A drought of such intensity, that it is expected to have a return frequency of once in 10 years. This means that there is only a ten percent chance that less than this amount of rain will fall in any given year.

**1-in-10 Year Level of Certainty** Probability that the needs for reasonable-beneficial uses of water will be fully met during a 1-in-10 year drought.

**2020 Base Case** A model simulation which provides information of how the 1995 water management system would respond to anticipated future operations and demands under historic (1965-1995) climatic conditions with currently authorized restoration projects implemented, but without Restudy features.

**2020 with Restudy** A model simulation which provides information on how the water management system will perform with the implementation of the Restudy projects that would be completed by 2020 along with 2020 demands and operating criteria.

**Achievable Restoration Goal** The level of restoration can be achieved given the physical, structural, ecological (and cultural) constraints of the system.

**Acre-Foot** The volume of water that would cover one acre to a depth of one foot; 43,560 cubic feet; 1,233.5 cubic meters; 325,872 gallons.

**Agricultural Field Scale Irrigation Requirements Simulation (AFSIRS)** A simple water budget model for estimating irrigation demands that estimates demand based on basin specific data.

**Agricultural Self-Supplied Water Demand** The water used to irrigate crops, to water cattle, and for aquaculture (fish production), that is not supplied by a public water utility.

**Anoxic** Denotes the absence of oxygen

**Aquatic Preserve** Water bodies, as described in the aquatic preserve Act (Ch 258 F.S.) and administered under rules in Ch. 16Q-21 and 16Q-20 F.A.C., that are set aside by the state to be maintained in essentially natural or existing condition, for protection of fish and wildlife and public recreation so that their aesthetic biological and scientific values may endure for the enjoyment of future generations.

**Aquifer** A portion of a geologic formation or formations that yield water in sufficient quantities to be a supply source.

**Aquifer System** A heterogeneous body of intercalated permeable and less permeable material that acts as a water-yielding hydraulic unit of regional extent.

**Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR)** The injection of freshwater into a confined aquifer during times when supply exceeds demand (wet season), and recovering it during times when

there is a supply deficit (dry season).

**Available Supply** The maximum amount of reliable water supply including surface water, ground water and purchases under secure contracts.

**Average-day Demand** A water system's average daily use based on total annual water production (total annual gallons or cubic feet divided by 365).

**Average Irrigation Requirement** Irrigation requirement under average rainfall as calculated by the District's modified Blaney-Criddle model.

**Average Rainfall Year** A year having rainfall with a 50 percent probability of being exceeded over a twelve-month period.

**Backpumping** The practice of pumping water that is leaving the area back into a surface water reservoir.

**Baseline Condition** (see *Reference Condition*)

**Basin (Ground Water)** A hydrologic unit containing one large aquifer or several connecting and interconnecting aquifers.

**Basin (Surface Water)** A tract of land drained by a surface water body or its tributaries.

**Bathymetry** The measurement of water depth at various places in a body of water.

**Benthos/Benthic** Macroscopic organisms that live on or in the bottom substrate, such as clams and worms (contrast to plankton and nekton).

**Best Management Practices (BMPs)** Agricultural management activities designed to achieve an important goal, such as reducing farm runoff, or optimizing water use.

**Biscayne Aquifer** A portion of the Surficial Aquifer System, which provides most of the fresh water for public water supply and agriculture within Miami-Dade, Broward, and southeastern Palm Beach County. It is highly susceptible to contamination due to its high permeability and proximity to land surface in many locations.

**Brackish** Water with a chloride level greater than 250 mg/L and less than 19,000 mg/L.

**C&SF Project Comprehensive Review Study (Restudy)** A five-year study effort that looked at modifying the current C&SF Project to restore the greater Everglades and South Florida ecosystem while providing for the other water-related needs of the region. The study concluded with the Comprehensive Plan being presented to the congress on July 1, 1999. The recommendations made within the Restudy, that is, structural and operational modifications to the C&SF Project, are being further refined and will be implemented in the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP).

**Central and Southern Florida Project for Flood Control and Other Purposes (C&SF Project)** A complete system of canals, storage areas, and water control structures spanning the area from Lake Okeechobee to both the east and west coasts, and from Orlando south to the Everglades designed and constructed during the 1950s by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to provide flood control and improve navigation and recreation.

**Class I through V Surface Water Quality Standards** As defined by Chapter 62-302.400 Florida Administrative Code, all surface waters in Florida have been classified according to designated use as follows:

Class I	Potable water supplies
Class II	Shellfish propagation or harvesting
Class III	Recreation, propagation, and maintenance of a healthy, well-balanced population of fish and wildlife
Class IV	Agricultural water supplies
Class V	Navigation, utility, and industrial use

**Commercial and Industrial Self-Supplied Water Demand** Water used by commercial and industrial operations using over 0.1 million gallons per day.

**Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP)** The implementation of recommendations made within the Restudy, that is, structural and operational modifications to the C&SF Project are being further refined and will be implemented through this plan.

**Cone of Influence** The area around a producing well which will be affected by its operation.

**Consumptive Use** Use that reduces an amount of water in the source from which it is withdrawn.

**Consumptive Use Permit** A permit issued by the SFWMD allowing utilities to withdraw ground water for consumptive use.

**Control Structure** A man-made structure designed to regulate the level/flow of water in a canal (e.g., weirs, dams).

**Demand** The quantity of water needed to be withdrawn to fulfill a requirement.

**Desalination** A process which treats saline water to remove chlorides and dissolved solids.

**District Water Management Plan (DWMP)** Regional water resource plan developed by the District under Section 373.036, F.S.

**Districtwide Water Supply Assessment (DWSA)** This document includes water demand assessments and projections, and descriptions of the surface water and ground water resources within each of the SFWMD's four planning areas.

**Domestic Self-Supplied Water Demand** The water used by households whose primary source of water is private wells and water treatment facilities with pumpages of less than 0.5 mgd.

**Domestic Use** Use of water for the individual personal household purposes of drinking, bathing, cooking, or sanitation.

**Drainage District** A locally constituted drainage, water management or water control district that is created by special act of the legislature and authorized under Ch. 298 F.S., to construct, complete, operate, maintain, repair and replace any and all works necessary to implement an adopted water control plan

**Drawdown** The drawdown at a given point is the distance the water level is dropped.

**Environmental Resource Permit (ERP)** A SFWMD permit issued under authority of Chapter 40E-4 F.A.C. to ensure that land development projects do not cause adverse environmental, water quality or water quantity impacts.

**Epiphytes** Plants that derive their moisture and nutrients from the air and rain and usually grow on other plants.

**Estuary** A water passage where the ocean or sea meets a river.

**Eutrophication** The gradual increase in nutrients in a body of water. Natural eutrophication is a gradual process, but human activities may greatly accelerate the process.

**Evapotranspiration** Water losses from the surface of soils (evaporation) and plants (transpiration).

**Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA)** The area of histosols (muck) predominantly to the Southeast of Lake Okeechobee which is used for agricultural production.

**Everglades Construction Project** The foundation for the largest ecosystem restoration program in the history of Florida. It is composed of 12 interrelated construction projects located between Lake Okeechobee and the Everglades, including over 47,000 acres of Stormwater Treatment Areas (STAs).

**Exotic Nuisance Plant Species** A non-native species which tends to out-compete native species and becomes quickly established, especially in areas of disturbance or where the normal hydroperiod has been altered.

**Florida Department of Agricultural and Consumer Services (FDACS)** FDACS communicates the needs of the agricultural industry to the Legislature, the FDEP, and the water management districts, and ensures participation of agriculture in the development and implementation of water policy decisions. FDACS also oversees Florida's soil and water conservation districts, which coordinate closely with the federal Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

**Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)** The District operates under the general supervisory authority of the FDEP which includes budgetary oversight. FDEP was created by the merger of several former departments including primarily the Florida Department of Natural Resources (FDNR) and the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation (FDER).

**Floridan Aquifer System (FAS)** A multiple-use aquifer system composed of the upper Floridan and lower Floridan aquifers. It is the principal source of water supply north of Lake Okeechobee and the upper Floridan aquifer is used for drinking water supply in parts of Martin and St. Lucie counties. From Jupiter to south Miami, water from the Floridan Aquifer System is mineralized (total dissolved solids are greater than 1,000 mg/L) along coastal areas and in southern Florida.

**Flatwoods (Pine)** Natural communities that occur on level land and are characterized by a dominant overstory of slash pine. Depending upon soil drainage characteristics and position in the landscape, pine flatwoods habitats can exhibit xeric to moderately wet conditions.

**Florida Water Plan** State-level water resource plan developed by the FDEP under Section 373.036, F.S. F.S. Florida Statutes.

**FY** Fiscal Year; the District's fiscal year begins on October 1 and ends on September 30 the following year.

**Food Web** The totality of interacting food chains in an ecological community.

**Geographic Informations Systems (GIS) Mapping** The abstract representation of natural (or cultural) features of a landscape into a digital database, geographic information system.

**Governing Board** Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District.

**Ground Water** Water beneath the surface of the ground, whether or not flowing through known and definite channels.

**Ground Water Heads** Elevation of water table.

**Harm** (*Term will be defined during proposed rule development process*) An adverse impact to water resources or the environment that is generally temporary and short-lived, especially when the recovery from the adverse impact is possible within a period of time of several months to several years, or less.

**Hectare** A unit of measure in the metric system equal to 10,000 square meters (2.47 acres).

**Hydropattern** The pattern of inundation or saturation of an ecosystem.

**Hydroperiod** The frequency and duration of inundation or saturation of an ecosystem. In the context of characterizing wetlands, the term hydroperiod describes that length of time during the year that the substrate is either saturated or covered with water.

**Hypoxic** A deficiency of oxygen reaching the tissues of the body.

**Incremental Simulations** Model simulations performed to understand how the system would perform with partial completion of the Restudy projects and if the ability to meet the 1-in-10 year level of certainty criteria improves over time.

**Indicator Region** A grouping of model grid cells within the SFWMM consisting of similar vegetation cover and soil type. By grouping cells, the uncertainty of evaluating results from a single two by two, square mile grid cell that represents a single water management gage is reduced.

**Infiltration** The movement of water through the soil surface into the soil under the forces of gravity and capillarity.

**Inorganic** Relating to or composed of chemical compounds other than plant or animal origin.

**Irrigation** The application of water to crops, and other plants by artificial means.

**Irrigation Efficiency** The average percent of total water pumped or delivered for use that is delivered to the root zone of a plant.

**Isohaline Zone** Transition between the saltier mesohaline and the fresher oligohaline habitats; in this document it has a salinity of 5 parts per thousand and defines the downstream extent of viable oligohaline habitat under low flow situations.

**Kriging** A technique for interpolating nonstationary spatial phenomena which can be applied to such diverse hydrologic problems as interpolation of piezometric heads and transmissivities estimated from hydrogeologic surveys and estimation of mean areal precipitation accumulations. It can also be used in hydrologic network design because of its ability to estimate streamflow values using existing stations (Lo, 1992).

**Lagoon** A body of water separated from the ocean by barrier islands, with limited exchange with

the ocean through inlets.

**Lake Okeechobee** This lake measures 730 square miles and is the second largest freshwater lake wholly within the United States.

**Leakance** Movement of water between aquifers or aquifer systems.

**Leak Detection** Systematic method to survey the distribution system and pinpoint the exact locations of hidden underground leaks.

**Levee** An embankment to prevent flooding, or a continuous dike or ridge for confining the irrigation areas of land to be flooded.

**Level of Certainty** Probability that the demands for reasonable-beneficial uses of water will be fully met for a specified period of time (generally taken to be one year) and for a specified condition of water availability, (generally taken to be a drought event of a specified return frequency). For the purpose of preparing regional water supply plans, the goal associated with identifying the water supply demands of existing and future reasonable beneficial uses is based upon meeting those demands for a drought event with a 1-in-10 year return frequency.

**Marsh** A frequently or continually inundated wetland characterized by emergent herbaceous vegetation adapted to saturated soil conditions.

**MODFLOW** A fine-scale model code created by the U.S. Geological Survey. The District uses it for subregional and ground water modeling. A number of additional modules or components can be added to this model to deal with surface water features such as streams, wetlands, etc.

**Mesohaline** Term to characterize waters with salinity of 5 to 18 parts per thousand, due to ocean-derived salts.

**Minimum Flows and Levels (MFLs)** The point at which further withdrawals would cause significant harm to the water resources/ecology of the area.

**National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD)** A nationally established references for elevation data.

**Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)** An agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that provides technical assistance for soil and water conservation, natural resource surveys, and community resource protection.

**Nekton** Macroscopic organisms swimming actively in water, such as fish (contrast to plankton).

**NGVD** National Geodetic Vertical Datum, a nationally established references for elevation data relative to sea level.

**Oligohaline** Low salinity region of an estuary where fresh and saline waters meet; salinity range is typically 0.5 to 5.0 parts per thousand.

**Oligosaline** Term to characterize water with salinity of 0.5 to 5.0 parts per thousand, due to land-derived salts.

**One-in-Ten Year Drought Event** A drought of such intensity, that it is expected to have a return frequency of 10 years (see Level of Certainty).

**Organics** Being composed of or containing matter of, plant and animal origin.

**Overhead Sprinkler Irrigation** A pressurized system, where water is applied through a variety

of outlet sprinkler heads or nozzles. Pressure is used to spread water droplets above the crop canopy to simulate rainfall.

**Outstanding Florida Waters (OFW)** A special category of water bodies within the state that have been defined by FDEP, based on Section 403.0619270 Florida Statutes, to be worthy of special protection because of their natural attributes.

**Per Capita Use** Total use divided by the total population served.

**Permeability** Defines the ability of a rock or sediment to transmit fluid.

**Phytoplankton** The floating, usually minute, plant life of a body of water

**Point Source** Any discernible, confined and discrete conveyance from which pollutants are or may be discharged, including but not limited to any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operation, or vessel or other floating craft. This term does not include agricultural storm water discharges and return flows from irrigated agriculture.

**Potable Water** Water that is safe for human consumption.

**Potentiometric Head** The level to which water will rise when a well is pierced in a confined aquifer.

**Potentiometric Surface** An imaginary surface representing the total head of ground water.

**Process Water** Water used for nonpotable industrial usage, e.g., mixing cement.

**Projection Period** The period over which projections are made. In the case of this document, the 25 year period from 1995 to 2020.

**Public Water Supply Demand** All potable water supplied by regional water treatment facilities with pumpage of 0.5 million gallons per day (mgd) or more to all customers, not just residential.

**Public Water Supply (PWS) Utilities** Utilities that provide potable water for public use.

**Rationing** Mandatory water-use restrictions sometimes used under drought or other emergency conditions.

**Reasonable-Beneficial Use** Use of water in such quantity as is necessary for economic and efficient utilization for a purpose and in a manner which is both reasonable and consistent with the public interest.

**Reclaimed Water** Water that has received at least secondary treatment and basic disinfection and is reused after flowing out of a domestic wastewater treatment facility.

**RECOVER** A comprehensive monitoring and adaptive assessment program formed to perform the following for the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Program: REstoration, COordination, and VERification.

**Recreational Self-Supplied Water Demand** The water used for landscape and golf course irrigation. The landscape subcategory includes water used for parks, cemeteries, and other irrigation applications greater than 0.1 million gallons per day. The golf course subcategory includes those operations not supplied by a public water supply or regional reuse facility.

**Reduced Threshold Areas (RTAs)** Areas established by the District for which the threshold separating a General Permit from an Individual Permit has been lowered from the maximum

limit of 100,000 GPD to 20,000 GPD. These areas are typically resource- depleted areas where there have been an established history of substandard water quality, saline water movement into ground or surface water bodies, or the lack of water availability to meet projected needs of a region.

**Reference Condition.** A representation of historic conditions that previously existed in the Loxahatchee River watershed. In this case, the reference condition is based on District staff's interpretation of a set of historical aerial photography and previous vegetation studies that describe the distribution of plant communities along the Northwest Fork at the time that the Loxahatchee was designated as a Wild and Scenic River (1985).

**Regional Water Supply Plan** Detailed water supply plan developed by the District under Ch. 373.0361, F.S.

**Reservation of Water** (see Water Reservation)

**Reservoir** A man-made or natural lake where water is stored.

**Residential Self-Supplied Water Demand** The water used by households whose primary source of water is private wells and water treatment facilities with pumpages of less than 0.5 million gallons per day.

**Restoration Vision.** A narrative description of the desired distribution and extent of the physical components and ecological communities that constitute a restored ecosystem (compare to *achievable restoration*)

**Restudy** Shortened name for C&SF Restudy.

**Retrofitting** The replacement of existing water fixtures, appliances and devices with more efficient fixtures, appliances and devices for the purpose of water conservation.

**Reuse** The deliberate application of water that has received at least secondary treatment, in compliance with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and water management district rules, for a beneficial purpose.

**Reverse Osmosis (RO)** Common process used to produce deionized water from municipal water.

**RMA-2 Model** RMA-2 is a two dimensional depth averaged finite element hydrodynamic numerical model that was developed by Resource Management Associates, Inc. The program has been applied to calculate water levels and flow distribution around islands; flow at bridges, in contracting and expanding reaches, into and out of hydropower plants, at river junctions, circulation and transport in water bodies with wetlands; and general water levels and flow patterns in rivers, reservoirs, and estuaries.

**RMA-4 Model** The water quality model, RMA-4, is designed to simulate the depth-average advection-diffusion process in an aquatic environment. The model is used for investigating the physical processes of migration and mixing of a soluble substance in reservoirs, rivers, bays, estuaries and coastal zones.

**Saline Water** Water with a chloride concentration greater than 250 mg/L, but less than 19,000 mg/L.

**Saline Water Interface** The hypothetical surface of chloride concentration between fresh water and saline water, where the chloride concentration is 250 mg/L at each point on the surface.

**Saline Water Intrusion or Saltwater Water Intrusion** This occurs when more dense saline water moves laterally inland from the coast, or moves vertically upward, to replace fresher water in an aquifer.

**Salinity** The total quantity of dissolved salts in sea water, measured by weight in parts per thousand and generally estimated by determining the concentration of dissolved chlorides or electrical conductivity of the water sample.

**Sapling** Juvenile tree that is shorter than canopy height, but taller than breast height

**SAVELOX Model** SALinity and VEgetation model for the LOXahatchee. A model developed by SFWMD to estimate vegetation response to a given set of long-term salinity conditions.

**Sea Water** Water which has a chloride concentration equal to or greater than 19,000 mg/L.

**Seedling** Juvenile tree shorter than breast height

**Seepage Irrigation Systems** Irrigation systems which convey water through open ditches. Water is either applied to the soil surface (possibly in furrows) and held for a period of time to allow infiltration, or is applied to the soil subsurface by raising the water table to wet the root zone.

**Semi-Confining Layers** Layers with little or no horizontal flow that can store ground water and also transmit it slowly from one aquifer to another. The rate of vertical flow is dependent on the head differential between the semi-confining beds and those above and below them, as well as the vertical permeability of the sediments.

**Sensitivity Analysis** An analysis of alternative results based on variations in assumptions (a “what if” analysis).

**Serious Harm** (*Term will be defined during proposed rule development process*) An extremely adverse impact to water resources or the environment that is either permanent or very long-term in duration. Serious harm is generally considered to be more intense than significant harm.

**Significant Harm** (*Term will be defined during proposed rule development process*) An adverse impact to water resources or the environment, relating to an established minimum flow or level for a water body; generally temporary but not necessarily short-lived, especially when the period of recovery from the adverse impact exceeds several months to several years in duration; more intense than harm, but less intense than serious harm. St. Lucie Estuary significant harm occurs when freshwater flows to the estuary are less than the rate of evaporation for a period of two consecutive months during the dry season for two or more years in succession.

**Slough** A channel in which water moves sluggishly, or a place of deep muck, mud or mire. Sloughs are wetland habitats that serve as channels for water draining off surrounding uplands and/or wetlands.

**South Florida Water Management Model (SFWMM)** An integrated surface water- ground water model that simulates the hydrology and associated water management schemes in the majority of South Florida using climatic data from January 1, 1965, through December 31, 1995. The model simulates the major components of the hydrologic cycle and the current and

numerous proposed water management control structures and associated operating rules. It also simulates current and proposed water shortage policies for the different subregions in the system.

**Stage** The elevation of the surface of a surface water body.

**Standard Project Flood (SPF)** A mathematically derived set of hydrologic conditions for a region that defines the water levels that can be expected to occur in a basin during an extreme rainfall event, taking into account all pertinent conditions of location, meteorology, hydrology, and topography.

**Storm Water** Surface water resulting from rainfall that does not percolate into the ground or evaporate.

**Stormwater Treatment Area (STA)** A system of large treatment wetlands that use naturally occurring biological processes to reduce the levels of phosphorus from agricultural runoff prior to it being released to the Everglades.

**Stump Sprouts** Damaged adult trees that have resprouted from a trunk

**Subregional Ground Water Model** A computer model that is used to simulate impacts on a smaller scale than the SFWMM, such as effects within public water supply service areas and impacts of individual wellfields.

**Subsidence** An example of subsidence is the lowering of the soil level caused by the shrinkage of organic layers. This shrinkage is due to biochemical oxidation.

**Supply-Side Management** The conservation of water in Lake Okeechobee to ensure that water demands are met while reducing the risk of serious or significant harm to natural systems.

**Surface Water** Water that flows, falls, or collects above the surface of the earth.

**Surficial Aquifer System (SAS)** The SAS is the major source of water in the LEC Planning Area. It is unconfined, consisting of varying amounts of limestone and sediments that extend from the land surface to the top of an intermediate confining unit.

**SWIM Plan** Surface Water Improvement and Management Plan, prepared according to Ch. 373, F. S.

**Tidal Rivers** Water bodies that receive fresh water from areas other than runoff (from the upstream watershed), are flushed to some extent during a tidal cycle, and are subject to saltwater intrusion from downstream areas.

**Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)** The level of loading to a body of water that will protect uses and maintain compliance with water quality standards (defined in the Clean Water Act).

**Transmissivity** A term used to indicate the rate at which water can be transmitted through a unit width of aquifer under a unit hydraulic gradient. It is a function of the permeability and thickness of the aquifer, and is used to judge its production potential.

**Turbidity** The measure of suspended material in a liquid.

**Uplands** An area with a hydrologic regime that is not sufficiently wet to support vegetation typically adapted to life in saturated soil conditions; nonwetland.

**Valued Ecosystem Component (VEC)** A resource-based management strategy similar to a program developed by the EPA as part of the National Estuary Program. For the purposes of this

study, the VEC approach is based on the concept that management goals for the Northwest Fork of the Loxahatchee River can best be achieved by providing suitable environmental conditions that will support certain key species, or key groups of species, that inhabit the system.

**Vertical Migration** The vertical movement of oil, gas, contaminants, water, or other liquids through porous and permeable rock.

**Wastewater** The combination of liquid and waterborne discharges from residences, commercial buildings, industrial plants and institutions together with any ground water, surface runoff or leachate that may be present.

**Water Budget** An accounting of total water use or projected water use for a given location or activity.

**Water Conservation** Any beneficial reduction in water losses, wastes, or use.

**Water Conservation Areas (WCAs)** That part of the original Everglades ecosystem that is now diked and hydrologically controlled for flood control and water supply purposes. These are located in the western portions of Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties, and preserve a total of 1,337 square miles, or about 50 percent of the original Everglades.

**Water Control District** (see Drainage District)

**Water Resource Development** The formulation and implementation of regional water resource management strategies, including: the collection and evaluation of surface water and ground water data; structural and nonstructural programs to protect and manage the water resource; the development of regional water resource implementation programs; the construction, operation, and maintenance of major public works facilities to provide for flood control, surface and underground water storage, and ground water recharge augmentation; and, related technical assistance to local governments and to government-owned and privately owned water utilities.

**Water Reservations** State law on water reservations, in Section 373.223(4), F.S., defines water reservations as follows: “The governing board or the department, by regulation, may reserve from use by permit applicants, water in such locations and quantities, and for such seasons of the year, as in its judgment may be required for the protection of fish and wildlife or the public health and safety. Such reservations shall be subject to periodic review and revision in the light of changed conditions. However, all presently existing legal uses of water shall be protected so long as such use is not contrary to the public interest.”

**Watershed** The drainage area from which all surface water drains to a common receiving water body system.

**Water Shortage Declaration** Water shortage declarations can be made by the District’s Governing Board pursuant to Rule 40E-21.231, Florida Administrative Code, which states “If there is a possibility that insufficient water will be available within a source class to meet the estimated present and anticipated user demands from that source, or to protect the water resource from serious harm, the Governing Board may declare a water shortage for the affected source class.” Estimates of the percent reduction in demand required to match available supply is required and identifies which phase of drought restriction is implemented. A gradual progression in severity of restriction is implemented through increasing phases. Once declared, the District is required to notify permitted users by mail of the restrictions and to publish restrictions in area newspapers.

**Water Supply Development** The planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of public or private facilities for water collection, production, treatment, transmission, or distribution for sale, resale, or end use.

**Water Supply Plan** District plans that provide an evaluation of available water supply and projected demands, at the regional scale. The planning process projects future demand for 20 years and develops strategies to meet identified needs.

**Weir** A barrier placed in a stream to control the flow and cause it to fall over a crest. Weirs with known hydraulic characteristics are used to measure flow in open channels.

**Wetlands** Areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions.

**Wild and Scenic River** A river as designated under the authority of the of Public Law 90-542, the wild an Scenic Rivers Act as amended, as a means to preserve selected free-flowing rivers in their natural condition and protect the water quality of such rivers. The Loxahatchee River was federally-designated as the first Wild and Scenic River in Florida on May 17, 1985.

**Xeriscape™** Landscaping that involves seven principles: proper planning and design; soil analysis and improvement; practical turf areas; appropriate plant selection; efficient irrigation; mulching; and appropriate maintenance.